

1 - Mr. Adams
1 - Mr. Gallagher
1 - Mr. Ingram
1 - Mr. Peelman
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
1 - Mr. Moore

OUTSIDE SOURCE

February 1, 1977

Mr. Jack Anderson
1401 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

1 - Mr. Leavitt
1 - Mr. Mintz (Attn: Mr. Daly)

Dear Mr. Anderson:

President John F. Kennedy

Reference is made to your article entitled, "U.S., Cuba Had Germ Warfare Plans" which appeared in the Washington Post on January 17, 1977, and to your article entitled, "Mystery Witness in JFK Inquiry" which appeared in the January 19, 1977, issue of the Washington Post. These articles make reference to the investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The January 17, 1977, article reported: "The FBI never allowed the (Warren) commission access to its files . . ." and ". . . that the FBI had in its files at least 69 reports on the pre-assassination activities of Lee Harvey Oswald. Only 46 of these were summarized for the Warren Commission; the remaining 23 were held back." This is erroneous. By letter dated May 4, 1964, the FBI furnished the Honorable J. Lee Rankin a description of the 69 documents pertaining to the pre-assassination activities of Lee Harvey Oswald. This letter appears in the Warren Commission report as Commission Exhibit 834. Additionally, as set out in the May 6, 1964, testimony of Alan H. Belmont, former Assistant to the Director, FBI, before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Mr. Belmont in response to a question posed by Samuel A. Stern, Assistant Counsel, volunteered that the "Oswald" file was available to the Commission. This file had in fact been reviewed in its entirety by Mr. Stern on May 4, 1964.

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1 - Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs

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*Director signed
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SEE NOTE PAGE THREE

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FBI/DOJ

Mr. Jack Anderson

The January 19, 1977, article states in part, that: ". . . the late J. Edgar Hoover deliberately misled the Warren Commission" about information received from Sylvia Odio.

The fact of the matter is that by letter dated September 21, 1964, the Warren Commission was advised by the FBI that the three individuals who visited Sylvia Odio's apartment had been identified and that investigation concerning this matter was continuing. This allegation was fully investigated by the FBI and the results of the subsequent investigation including the interviews of the individuals named in the September 21, 1964, letter were furnished to the Warren Commission by letter dated November 9, 1964.

Additionally, the January 19, 1977, article refers to the alleged threat made by the late Joseph Milteer, ". . . which was taped by an FBI informant, ". . . who turned the tape over to the FBI the next day."

The fact is this information was received and recorded by an informant of a city police department, which department furnished a transcript of the alleged threat to the local office of the FBI. This information was subsequently furnished by the FBI to Secret Service Headquarters ten days prior to the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

This letter is prepared not in righteous indignation but rather in the hope that your readers may have available the true facts readily supported by public source material.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence A. Kelley
Director

Mr. Jack Anderson

NOTE: In Peelman to Mr. Gallagher memoranda dated 1/19/77, and 1/21/77, under caption, "Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, 11/22/63," responses to allegations of an FBI cover up made by Jack Anderson in Washington Post articles dated 1/17/77, and 1/19/77, were set out. Deputy Associate Director James B. Adams recommended that letter be prepared to Anderson requesting retraction for erroneous information which was published. These articles contained erroneous information pertaining to FBI investigation, dissemination to the Warren Commission, which information is refutable through review of the Warren Commission Report or through material currently available at the National Archives. Copies of this letter being furnished to the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, and to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice.

APPROVED:

Director *[Signature]*
Assoc. Dir. *[Signature]*
D. O. A.D. Adm. *[Signature]*

Twl *[Signature]*

Adm. Serv. *[Signature]*

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Training *[Signature]*